

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 remain pending in the application.

Reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the pending application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Official Action claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kochanowski, U.S. Patent No. 6,029,382. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define a feature of the invention and to more clearly distinguish over the applied prior art reference by further reciting that the light reflector is configured to be installed on the road guardrail with the bottom surface of the trapezoidal valley positioned adjacent the road guardrail and faces outwardly, and the transparent cover is positioned away from the guardrail.

A light reflector for a road guardrail of the present embodiment, as recited in amended claim 1, includes, inter alia, a light reflecting body formed with a reverse trapezoidal valley inside of the light reflecting body in a longitudinal direction, and formed with inclined surfaces that close front and rear ends of the reverse trapezoidal valley at the front and rear ends; light reflecting plates formed on a bottom surface and lateral sides of the reverse trapezoidal valley and plated by a mirror surface plating; one of a light reflecting tape attached on the inclined surfaces and fluorescent paint-coated on the inclined surfaces; and a transparent cover, installed on an upper side of the light reflecting body, that covers a space defined by the reverse trapezoidal valley and the front and rear inclined surfaces, the transparent cover including a substantially flat inner surface. Further, the light reflector is configured to be installed on the road guardrail with

the bottom surface of the trapezoidal valley positioned adjacent the road guardrail and faces outwardly, and the transparent cover is positioned away from the guardrail.

Applicant respectfully submits that the reference relied upon in the rejection under 35U.S.C. 103(a) does not disclose such a combination of features. In particular, in the present embodiment the light reflector is configured for use with the road guardrail.

Neither Eskilson nor Kochanowski is used with the road guard. Rather, Eskilson is directed to traffic signals themselves and Kochanowski is directed to roadside traffic signs themselves.

Applicant notes that the Examiner asserts the recitation of the intended use (e.g., “a road guard rail”) of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference.

In this regard, Applicant submits that the present embodiment, as in amended claim 1, recites a structural difference in that the light reflector 12 is configured to be installed on the road guardrail 1 with the bottom surface of the trapezoidal valley 6 positioned adjacent the road guardrail 1 and faces outwardly, and the transparent cover 10 is positioned away from the guardrail 1 which is clearly structurally different from the reflectors of Eskilson and Kochanowski.

Therefore, neither Eskilson nor Kochanowski teach or suggest the above noted combination of elements. Thus, any proper combination of the teachings of Eskilson and Kochanowski would not result in the embodiment as now recited in independent claim 1. Thus, the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) is now moot.

Independent claim 1 is now in condition for allowance in view of the amendments and the above-noted remarks. Dependent claims 2-8 are also submitted to be in condition for allowance in view of their dependence from the allowable base claims and also at

least based upon their recitations of additional features of the present invention.

Applicant recognizes that there is no right to entry of the above identified amendment. Nevertheless, Applicant notes that the above amendment clearly places the application in condition for allowance, does not require further consideration or search, and does not introduce any prohibited new matter. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendment and provide an early indication of allowance of the application.

It is respectfully requested, therefore, that the rejections under 35 U.S.C.103(a) and the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 be withdrawn and that an early indication of the allowance thereof be given.

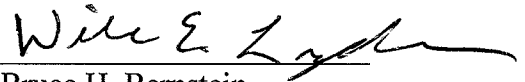
Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based on prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to be attached thereto.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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